

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A device for sealing food product containers, in particular drink containers, comprising:

a sealing element adapted to engage on a wall of a food product container around a wall opening arranged in the wall, and

an operating element adapted to co-act with the sealing element for displacing the sealing element between an opened position leaving the wall opening clear and a closed position sealing the wall opening,

wherein the operating element is provided with coupling means for coupling the food product container, and that the relative orientation of the sealing element and the operating element can be changed such that the operating element pulls the sealing element in the closed position to engage under bias on the wall for substantially medium-tight sealing of the food product container, and wherein the sealing element and the operating element mutually co-act by means of a screw connection.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the sealing element and the operating element are adapted to mutually enclose a part of the wall of the food product container.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the sealing element is located at least substantially inside the food product container.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the mutual distance between the sealing element and the operating element can be changed.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the relative orientation of the sealing element and the operating element can be changed by means of rotating the sealing element relative to the operating element.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the sealing element engages via a seal on the wall of the food product container.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the coupling means are adapted to engage on a peripheral edge of the wall opening.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A device for sealing food product containers, in particular drink containers, comprising:

a sealing element adapted to engage on a wall of a food product container around a wall opening arranged in the wall, and

an operating element adapted to co-act with the sealing element for displacing the sealing element between an opened position leaving the wall opening clear and a closed position sealing the wall opening,

wherein the operating element is provided with coupling means for coupling the food product container, and that the relative orientation of the sealing element and the operating element can be changed such that the operating element can cause the sealing element in the closed position to engage under bias on the wall for substantially medium-tight sealing of the food product container,

wherein the coupling means are adapted to engage on a peripheral edge of the wall opening, and

wherein the operating element is partially situated in the wall opening such that the operating element engages bilaterally on the wall.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the operating element is provided with at least one receiving space for a pin projecting from the wall.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the pin forms part of an intermediate element connected to the wall.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the operating element is provided with a projecting engaging member for a user.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the operating element is provided with a passage opening for the food product held in the food product container.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): ~~The device as claimed in claim 33,~~ A device for sealing food product containers, in particular drink containers, comprising:

a sealing element adapted to engage on a wall of a food product container around a wall opening arranged in the wall, and

an operating element adapted to co-act with the sealing element for displacing the sealing element between an opened position leaving the wall opening clear and a closed position sealing the wall opening, the operating element being provided with a passage opening for the food product held in the food product container,

wherein the operating element is provided with coupling means for coupling the food product container, and that the relative orientation of the sealing element and the operating element can be changed such that the operating element pulls the sealing element in the closed position to engage under bias on the wall for substantially medium-tight sealing of the food product container, and wherein the sealing element is provided with a screening element

projecting in the direction of the operating element and adapted for positioning in the passage opening in a closed situation of the device.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the operating element is provided with a venting opening.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the device is initially sealed in the closed situation of the device.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A device for sealing food product containers, in particular drink containers, comprising:

a sealing element adapted to engage on a wall of a food product container around a wall opening arranged in the wall, and

an operating element adapted to co-act with the sealing element for displacing the sealing element between an opened position leaving the wall opening clear and a closed position sealing the wall opening,

wherein the operating element is provided with coupling means for coupling the food product container, and that the relative orientation of the sealing element and the operating element can be changed such that the operating element can cause the sealing element in the closed position to engage under bias on the wall for substantially medium-tight sealing of the food product container,

wherein the device is initially sealed in the closed situation of the device, and

wherein the seal is formed by a mutual breakable connection between the sealing element and the operating element.

Claim 38 (Cancelled)

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A food product container provided with a device as claimed in claim 22.

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Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The food product container as claimed in claim 39, wherein the food product container is formed by a drink container.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The food product container as claimed in claim 40, wherein the food product container is formed by a drink can.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The food product container as claimed in claim 39, wherein the device is arranged on an upper wall of the food product container.